

RECALL OF PREVIOUS CHANNEL BASED ON VIEW TIME

Abstract of the Disclosure

An apparatus, program product and method for recalling a previous program channel of interest from a current program channel, where the channel of interest is determined by the amount of time a user has previously spent on the channel. The amount of elapsed time a user spends on a program channel is monitored. If the elapsed time exceeds a predetermined threshold, the program channel is identified as a channel of interest. As the user switches from the channel of interest to subsequent broadcast channels (i.e., "surfs"), the channel of interest is retained in memory as long as the amount of time spent on any subsequent channel is less than the predetermined time threshold. If the amount of time spent on a subsequent channel is greater than the predetermined time threshold, the subsequent channel is identified and stored as the new channel of interest. At any time, the user may select a selective view function to return to the channel of interest from the currently selected channel.